

CLAIMS

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A remote control device for remotely selecting channels on a video device, said control device comprising:

a transmitter for transmitting control signals to said video device;

a plurality of favorite channel group keys;

each of said channel group keys adapted for controlling the selection of a predetermined group of channels less than all available channels;

said unit having an up/down key device for scanning through channels to be selected in said video device other than said channels selectable by means of said favorite channel group keys;

said up/down key device being adapted to scroll upwardly and downwardly through the list of channels included in the channels selected by the operation of one of said favorite channel group keys.

2. A device as in Claim 1 in which said up/down key device is enabled to control the selection of channels only in a selected one of said groups when one of said favorite channel group keys has been operated.

3. A device as in Claim 1 including a memory and means for storing in said memory control signals for the channels in each of said groups, said up/down key device being adapted to operate to retrieve control signals from said memory upon the operation of one of said channel group keys.

4. A method of operating a remote control device to rapidly select a desired channel, said method comprising:

(a) storing identification signals for a plurality of selected channels in each of a plurality of groups;

(b) operating one of a plurality of switches, one for each of said groups, to select the channels in one of said groups; and

(c) using the up/down scrolling device of said remote control device to scroll through said channels in said one group.

5. A process for controlling the transmission of control signals from a remote controller to a video receiver so as to select a channel within a favorite channel group when a favorite channel selector switch is operated and to select another channel when a favorite channel group is not selected.

6. A process as in Claim 5 including detecting the simultaneous actuation of a favorite channel selector switch and

a predetermined other switch to actuate a storage mode to enable programming channel and device selection data into a memory.

7. A process as in Claim 6 including detecting whether an input is a channel "up" switch or a channel "down" switch during said storage mode, and changing the channel to be stored accordingly.

8. A process as in Claim 7, including using a line counter to count the number of digits in a channel member and store that count in memory, and reading out said line count when retrieving a channel number from memory and signaling completion of read-out when the line count for a given channel has been met.

9. A process as in Claim 5 including the step of determining the character of the channels of each of a plurality of said groups, each being actuated by a different group selection switch on a remote controller, and making the channels within each such group within the same character.

10. A process as in Claim 6 in which said other switch is a MUTE switch.